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RAMSBOTTOM  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
and

Chief Sanitary Inspector,  
1945.

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RAMSBOTTOM :  
N. Whitworth, Printer, Paradise Street.



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## RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL :

CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR R. T. TURNBULL, J.P.

### COUNCILLORS :

\*A. BUTTERWORTH  
(resigned June)

\*G. HOLT, J.P.

†M. CRAWSHAW

E. L. MCCARTHY

\*R. CROWTHER  
(from October)

\*H. C. RANDELL  
(from October)

F. DEWHURST

\*T. O. SHELDON  
(from July)

G. FOGG, J.P.

\*T. C. SUTCLIFFE  
(resigned September)

H. FOSTER

\*R. HEYS

\*R. SUTHERS  
(resigned September)

\*N. HIGSON

H. TAYLOR  
(died December)

W. HOLDEN, J.P.

REV. L. A. WILSON

† Chairman of Health Committee.

\* Members of Health Committee.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (PART-TIME) :  
HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :  
STANLEY F. BAYLEY, F.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.,  
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR :  
FRANK HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.,  
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods. (resigned April, 1945).

CLERKS :  
JOHN HOLT (IN H.M. FORCES).  
MRS. M. GOODFELLOW, (TEMPORARY)  
ERIC HASLAM, (TEMP.) (appointed May, 1945).



To the Ramsbottom Urban District Council.

# The Annual Report

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**AND THE**

**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,**

1945.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Again I have the pleasure of presenting to you my Annual Report and this time for the year 1945 dealing with such matters as concern the maintenance of the health and well-being of the people of the Urban District. It is my 35th Annual Report and as was the case in the preceding year it is combined with Mr. Bayley's Report so that the various items can be marshalled under their respective headings for easier reading and greater concentration.

The general health of the district has been well maintained, and we are all bearing with considerable fortitude and good humour the many restrictions that have been ostensibly for our good laid upon us. As regards food, no case of malnutrition has been reported, and those whose condition of health makes it necessary, receive additional supplies of milk, eggs, meat and fats. School children are supplied with a daily quantity of fresh milk.

There are a few items upon which with your permission I would like to comment. You will observe in the vital statistics that our births number 196 and our deaths 197, giving respective rates of 14.6 and 14.7. The comparable rates for England and

Wales are births 16.1, deaths 11.4; so that our rates do not reach the average for the whole country. Ramsbottom is an avowed industrial town and as such ought to have a birth-rate above the average in consequence of there being, as is usual in industrial areas, a preponderance of women within the child-bearing age period. Residential areas on the other hand are noted for the number of women residents over this age period.

Can the reason be that the younger and fecund part of the population is migrating to other areas to seek their fortune and that older people are selecting our pleasant and salubrious district for its residential qualifications? Or is the reason deliberate? Both reasons may be and probably are in operation, but I am convinced, from reliable evidence, that a large increase of suitable accommodation for young married couples and those who wish to get married would considerably improve the situation.

The year dealt pretty severely with the aged; almost twice as many deaths occurred in people over 65 years than in those under 65 years. This is as it should be, for given a good start in life more people should live to a ripe old age and retain their faculties to the end. I think the public in general should be made familiar with the important part heredity plays as well as environment in producing a race sound in mind and body. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system account for most of these deaths, and suggest that the strain upon these organs during life was greater than they could bear.

In conclusion, I thank you for your continued interest in public health affairs. Also I thank my fellow officials, especially those of the Public Health Office, for help and advice in the fulfilment of my duties.

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, my Annual Report on the Sanitary Inspection of the Urban District for the year 1945.

I am pleased to report a considerable improvement in the regularity with which household refuse was collected, particularly during the last few months of the year, and I am confident that soon we shall have a very efficient service.

Owing to the lack of technical assistance for the greater part of the year it was only possible to attend to the more pressing work. Nevertheless, the number of inspections made and the work accomplished compare favourably with previous years.

Every effort was made to maintain proper supervision over the food supplies in the District. There was an improvement in the number of milk samples which satisfied the tests for cleanliness in production and handling, but a sharp rise took place in the number of samples found to contain the tubercle bacilli, reminding us that any measures designed to erradicate this disease from milking herds or to prevent its transmission to man through the nation's milk supply needs every support.

I acknowledge your continued interest and support in the activities of the Department and the co-operation and assistance of the Medical Officer of Health, staff and fellow officials.

Your obedient servant,

STANLEY F. BAYLEY, F.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

**SECTION A.****Statistics and Social Conditions.**

Area in acres ... ..	9,564
Population (Census 1931) ... ..	15,530
Registrar-General's estimate, mid 1945 ... ..	13,340
Number of inhabited houses—	
(a) Census 1931 ... ..	4,390
(b) End of 1945 ... ..	5,035
Rateable Value ... ..	£81,474
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£322

**Vital Statistics.**

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births {	Legitimate	182	91	Birth rate per 1,000 of the population 14.6
	Illegitimate	14	9	
	Total	196	100	
Still Births	6	3	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 29.0
Deaths	197	97	100	Death rate per 1,000 of the population 14.7
England and Wales {	Birth Rate ...	16.1		
	Death Rate ...	11.4		

**Age Periods of Deaths.**

	M.	F.	Total.
Under 1 year ... ..	3	3	6
Between 1 and 5 years ...	0	0	0
,, 5 and 15 years ...	0	1	1
,, 15 and 25 years ...	0	0	0
,, 25 and 45 years ...	3	4	7
,, 45 and 65 years ...	29	23	52
65 years and over ... ..	62	69	131
Totals ... ..	97	100	197

**Deaths from Puerperal Causes.**

		Rate per 1,000 total Deaths. (live and still) births.
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal causes ... ..	1	4.95

**Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.**

All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	30.60
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	27.00
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	71.00

**Deaths from Certain Specified Diseases.**

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	22
„ „ Measles (all ages) ... ..	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	0
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... ..	0

CAUSES OF DEATHS	1945	1944
ALL CAUSES	197	179
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.....	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	0	1
Scarlet Fever .....	0	0
Whooping Cough .....	0	0
Diphtheria .....	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	5	6
Other Forms of Tuberculosis .....	1	3
Syphilitic Diseases.....	1	2
Influenza .....	0	0
Measles .....	0	0
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis .....	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	0	1
Cancer .....	22	19
Diabetes .....	2	9
Cerebral Hæmorrhage .....	25	14
Heart Diseases .....	55	49
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	17	6
Bronchitis .....	12	13
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	3	3
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	3	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	1	2
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) .....	0	0
Appendicitis.....	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases .....	0	5
Nephritis.....	7	4
Puerperal Sepsis.....	0	0
Other Maternal Causes .....	1	0
Premature Birth.....	2	5
Congenital Malformation, etc. ....	3	6
Suicide.....	6	1
Road Traffic Accidents .....	1	3
Other Violent Causes.....	5	0
All other Causes.....	24	22

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory facilities are available at—

The Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The Laboratory, Bury Infirmary.

Dr. J. S. Pooley's Exors., Broadfield Clinical Laboratory,  
Rochdale.

The following specimens were submitted for examination:—

Diphtheria Swabs ... ..	59
Sputum for T.B. ... ..	4
Dysentery ... ..	3
Milk for T.B. ... ..	28
Milk for Methylene Blue Test and bacillus coli...	29
Water for Bacteria ... ..	12
Water for Chemical ... ..	3
Miscellaneous ... ..	2

**Motor Ambulances.**—Two for conveyance of infectious cases and two for non-infectious.

**District Nurses.**—Two. One is provided by the Ramsbottom Hospital Committee and one by a voluntary association at Summerseat whose services are restricted to that area. No district nursing is undertaken by the local authority.

**Hospitals.**—In the Hospitals of Ramsbottom, Bury and Manchester, institutional and other services are available to members and their dependents of the local Medical Services Association, which comprises most of the industrial population. For those who prefer it and can afford the cost, the same services with private accommodation in single or double bed wards are available.

**Midwives.**—Two County Council Midwives serve the needs of the district. The District Nurse at Summerseat also practices

midwifery in that area. Their services are adequate for the Urban District.

**Maternity Homes.**—Bury Infirmary, 12 beds; Moorlands Hospital, Rawtenstall, 16 beds; and the County Hospital at Jericho, 24 beds. The obstetrical clinics attached to these Hospitals undertake pre-natal and post-natal supervision, and are well patronised by our expectant mothers.

Institutional treatment of puerperal sepsis is provided at the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury.

**Orthopædics.**—Treatment of this special character is available by arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health.

**Child Welfare Centre.**—This centre of activity, now under County control, is under the superintendence of one of the County's Health Visitors, and is as serviceable and popular as ever.

## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

NAME	WHERE HELD	TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Baptist Sunday School, Ramsbottom.	Tuesday, 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.	Lancashire County Cl.
School Clinic	St. Wilfrid's Sunday School, Summerseat.	Alternate Wednesdays, 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.	Brookbottom & Summerseat Nursing Association
Minor Ailments	Bank Chambers, Bridge St., Ramsbottom.	Monday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon (Nurse only)	Lancashire County Cl.
S.M.O. Inspection Clinic	" "	Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon	
Dental Clinic	" "	Tues. & Thur. 9 a.m. to 12 noon	
Ophthalmic Clinic	" "	Alternate Tues. " "	
Orthopaedic Clinic	"The Uplands," Whitefield.	3rd Wednesday in the month Thursday (Nurse only)	
Tuberculosis Clinic	41, Derbyshire Street, Radcliffe.	Wednesday, 2-30 p.m. and every 3rd Wednesday in the month at 6-30 p.m.	Lancashire County Cl.
	Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.	Tuesday, 2-30 p.m. and every 1st Tuesday in the month 6-30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.	" "
	The Wyld, Bury.	Males: Tues. 7 to 8-30 p.m. Fri. 5-30 to 7 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Females: Tues. 5-30 to 7 p.m. Thurs. 2 to 5 p.m. Fri. 7-0 to 8-30 p.m.	" "
Venereal Diseases Clinic			



**SECTION C.****SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.****Water Supply.**

The public water supply is maintained by the Irwell Valley Water Board. The whole supply is chlorinated and part is filtered through closed pressure filters. The supply is satisfactory in quality and with the exception of a few isolated groups of property the quantity is sufficient.

Reports on the Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are given below :—

**Chemical Examination.**

Parts per 100,000

Colour ... ..	Normal.
Turbidity ... ..	None.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C. ...	0.018
Free and Saline Ammonia... ..	0.0020
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	0.0110
Nitrous Nitrogen ... ..	None.
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	0.04
Chlorides ... ..	1.2
Hardness { Temporary ... ..	None.
Clarkes' { Permanent ... ..	6.0
Method { Total ... ..	6.0
Reactions PH ... ..	7.5
Action on Lead (24 hours) ... ..	0.12
Metals ... ..	None.

26th September, 1945.

(Signed) J. M. WATKINSON.

**Bacteriological Examination.**

Aerobic micro organisms growing in yeastrel agar.	No. of colonies per c.c. of water.
In 3 days at 22°C. ... ..	23
In 2 days at 37°C. ... ..	2

Probable number of coliform organisms  
per 100 c.c. of water ... ..

0

28th September, 1945.

(Signed) C. SHAW.



The following table shows the number of houses and types of water supply in the district :—

Number of Inhabited Houses.	Approximate Number of Houses.		
	With piped supply from Public Mains.	With piped supply from private sources.	Without piped Supply.
5,035	4,339	662	34

There are no stand-pipes in the district.

Eleven samples from private supplies, the majority of which were piped, were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The presence of B. Coli of true faecal type was reported in eight of these samples.

Two of the eleven samples were submitted for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Seven of the unsatisfactory samples were taken from a number of private supplies serving the Turn area, and some showed gross pollution. An interim report was submitted to the Council and further investigations embracing the whole district of Turn are proceeding.

The source of pollution in the case of the other unsatisfactory sample was traced to a neighbouring farm and steps taken to remedy the cause.

### **Sewerage.**

No important changes were made during the year.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

No pollutions were observed or reported during the year.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

The following conversions were carried out during the year :—

11 Waste Water Closets to F.W.C's.

#### **ACCOMMODATION AT END OF 1945.**

Privy Middens ... ..	35
Pail Closets ... ..	161
Waste Water Closets ... ..	1135
Fresh Water Closets ... ..	3251

**Public Cleansing.**

Types of receptacles in use at the beginning of the year :

Privy Middens ... ..	35
Pail Closets ... ..	161
Dry Ashpits ... ..	28
Dustbins (approx.) ... ..	4573

**REFUSE COLLECTION.**

The collection of domestic and trade refuse is carried out by direct labour, except in the Deeply Vale area, where it is let out by contract to a local farmer.

Two S. and D. Freighters and one Karrier Bantam, all of 7 cu. yd. capacity, are engaged on this work.

These vehicles are also used for the collection of salvage and waste food.

The Karrier Bantam was obtained in February and led to a considerable improvement in the collections of household refuse. Labour difficulties and frequent mechanical trouble with the oldest of the S. and D. Freighters, however, caused occasional delays in the service.

**REFUSE DISPOSAL.**

The method of disposal of house and trade refuse is by Controlled Tipping. Two tips are in use, one at Miller Street, Summerseat, and the other at Blackburn Road, Edenfield.

The contents of pail closets are emptied into the sewer.

**EXPENDITURE.**

The nett cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year ending 31st March, 1946, was £3,365 16s. 10d., compared with £2,650 8s. 11d. for the previous year.

**SCHEME FOR THE PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.**

85 dustbins were supplied under this scheme during the year.

**SALVAGE OF MATERIALS.**

198 tons of salvage were recovered during the year ending 31st March, 1946, and the income from the sale of these materials amounted to £762 12s.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspections	Primary Inspec- tions	Revisits	Total Visits
Housing—Housing Act .....	42	66	108
Housing—Public Health Act .....	35	40	75
Other Visits—Housing Act.....	16	1	17
Other Visits—Public Health Act .....	72	67	139
Infectious Diseases .....	72	20	92
Schools .....	4	—	4
Water Supply and Sampling .....	81	18	99
Drainage .....	74	100	174
Conversion of obsolete closets to FWC's	11	9	20
Public Cleansing .....	198	10	208
Vermin Infestations .....	17	36	53
Smoke Abatement .....	16	10	26
Offensive Trades .....	2	1	3
Common Lodging Houses .....	1	—	1
Dairies and Cowsheds .....	44	5	49
Milk Sampling .....	39	—	39
Bakehouses .....	8	1	9
Food Preparing Premises .....	5	2	7
Meat and Food Inspection—			
(a) Slaughterhouses.....	200	2	202
(b) Shops .....	33	3	36
Factory Act .....	7	2	9
Shops Act .....	11	—	11
Rat Infestations .....	16	43	59
Overcrowding .....	1	—	1
Temporary Dwellings .....	5	—	5
Salvage .....	57	—	57
Miscellaneous Visits.....	166	2	168
Complaints Unfounded.....	5	—	5
	1238	438	1676

**Notices Served, etc.**

Informal Notices ... ..	82
Statutory Notices ... ..	1
Certificates of Essentiality (Circular 2871) ... ..	19

**SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES FOUND.****(a) Housing.**

Defective roofs, rainwater pipes, eavespouts ... ..	35
Other external defects ... ..	16
Damp walls ... ..	6
Internal defects... ..	33
Defective paving of yards and courts ... ..	3
Insanitary Sinks ... ..	7

**(b) General.**

Defective W.C.'s and W.C. structures ... ..	17
Defective waste water closets or structures ... ..	12
Houses with insufficient W.C. accommodation ... ..	2
Houses with inadequate or unsatisfactory water supply... ..	54
Houses without ashes accommodation ... ..	25
Houses with defective ashes accommodation ... ..	42
Dangerous structures ... ..	1
Offensive accumulations ... ..	3
Dirty houses ... ..	1
Vermine infested houses ... ..	15
Rat infested premises ... ..	8
Defective sanitary accommodation in schools ... ..	1
Other nuisances ... ..	9

**(c) Drainage.**

Choked waste water closets ... ..	44
Defective drains ... ..	11
Choked drains ... ..	39

**NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE.****(a) Housing.**

Roofs, rainwater pipes, eavespouts repaired or renewed	26
Other external repairs ... ..	13
Dampness in walls remedied ... ..	4
Internal housing repairs ... ..	25
Yard paving repaired ... ..	1
Sinks renewed ... ..	7

**(b) General.**

Water closets and structures repaired ... ..	17
Waste water closets abolished and fresh water closets provided ... ..	11
Waste water closets or structures repaired ... ..	7
Houses provided with sufficient W.C. accommodation ...	2
Houses provided with satisfactory and adequate water supply ... ..	1
Houses provided with dustbins ... ..	25
Defective dustbins renewed ... ..	40
Ashpits abolished ... ..	1
Offensive accumulations removed ... ..	3
Dirty houses cleansed ... ..	2
Vermin infested houses cleansed ... ..	15
Rat infested premises cleared ... ..	7
Houses connected to Public Sewer ... ..	2
Other nuisances abated ... ..	9

**(c) Drainage.**

Choked Waste water closets cleansed ... ..	44
Defective drains repaired ... ..	10
Choked drains cleansed ... ..	37
New drains tested and passed ... ..	28
Old drains tested ... ..	11

**Shops Act.**—Eleven inspections made under Sec. 10. No action necessary.

**Factories Act, 1937.**

Number of inspections made ... ..	9
Contraventions of Sec. 7 found ... ..	5
Contraventions of Sec. 7 remedied ... ..	3

**Smoke Abatement.**

Number of observations taken during the year ... ..	13
Contravention of bye-laws ... ..	6

An Abatement Notice was served on the Company responsible for the emission of black smoke in contravention of the bye-laws. The works closed down before the notice expired.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

(a) Council houses found infested ... ..	4
Council houses disinfested ... ..	4
(b) Private houses found infested ... ..	3
Private houses disinfested ... ..	3

**Schools.**—No change.

**SECTION D.****HOUSING.****1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—**

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	58
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	58
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	1
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	1
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	57

**2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	42
--	----

**3c.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—**

(1) Undertakings accepted not to use houses for human habitation ... ..	1
---	---

**4.—Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding. No material change.****5.—Clearance Area Procedure. No action during the year.****NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.**

(a) By the Local Authority ... ..	Nil
(b) By Private Enterprise ... ..	1



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (a) Milk Supply :—

Number of producers ... ..	21
Number of producer retailers ... ..	45
Number of retailers ... ..	19
Dealers' licences to sell pasteurised milk ... ..	3
Supplementary licences to sell pasteurised milk ... ..	1
Accredited producers ... ..	4
Number of visits to cowsheds and dairies ... ..	49
New dairies erected ... ..	2
Minor repairs at cowsheds and dairies ... ..	4

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The following table shows the results of samples of milk submitted for the Methylene Blue and B. Coli tests as prescribed for "Accredited Milk."

The samples of "Accredited Milk" were taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council.

Class of Milk	Number submitted	Satisfactory on both Tests	Not Satisfactory on both Tests	Not Satisfactory on Methylene B Tests	Not Satisfactory on B Coli Test
Accredited ...	6	3	1	2	—
Undesignated	29	20	2	4	3

34 of the above samples, together with 4 samples of School Milk taken on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. 2 samples of undesignated milk and 1 sample of accredited proved positive. The offending animals were traced by the County Veterinary service and subsequently slaughtered.

All unsatisfactory samples produced in the district were followed up at the farm and advice given on the production of clean milk.

#### MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year all pigs slaughtered at the Bacon Factory in the district have been examined. Particulars of carcasses inspected

and the amounts condemned are shown below.

Number of pigs examined after slaughter ... .. 3,730  
 Number of carcasses found to be unfit for human consumption :—

- (a) Tuberculous ... .. 15  
 (b) Other Diseases ... .. 1

Weight of carcasses and organs found to be unfit for human consumption :—

	Whole Carcases & Organs lbs.	Part Carcases & Organs lbs.	Total lbs.
All Diseases except Tuberculosis ...	124	890	1014
Tuberculosis only ... ..	2688	6077	8765
Totals ...	2812	6967	9779

9 pigs slaughtered for private consumption were also examined. Part carcasses and organs affected with Tuberculosis and weighing 44 lbs. were surrendered.

In the course of visits to shops, food stores and food preparing premises, the following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

#### **Meat.**

- 80 lbs. Pork (Putrefaction).  
 50 lbs. Mutton (Putrefaction).  
 58 lbs. Beef (Putrefaction).

#### **Other Foods.**

- $6\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Bacon (Putrefaction).  
 $36\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Butter (Rancidity and Mould).  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Margarine (Taint).  
 4 lbs. Cheese (Taint).  
 85 lbs. Cheese (Mites).

#### **Tinned Food.**

- $10\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Meat.  
 7 Tins of Milk.  
 47 Tins of Preserved Fruit.  
 19 Tins of Fish.  
 2 Tins Miscellaneous Food.



### **Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

The provisions of the above Act relating to the sampling of food for quality are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Dr. F. Hall, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly supplied the following information:—

12 Samples of milk were obtained in the Ramsbottom Urban District during 1945. No adulteration was found.

### **SECTION F.**

#### **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

**Infectious Diseases.** See tables for classifications, numbers and monthly incidences. The Isolation Hospitals are:—Florence Nightingale—96 beds, Ainsworth—28 beds; the latter, if required, can be requisitioned for Small Pox. These Hospitals hitherto have provided all necessary accommodation. They are subject to control of a Joint Hospital Board, of which the Urban District is a constituent member.

**Scarlet Fever.** There was an increased incidence of this disease during the year, but of rather mild severity, and in some instances there was reason to suspect infection from return cases.

**Diphtheria.** Twelve cases were notified of true diphtheria. A few more cases were notified and sent to Hospital, where the disease was found not to be diphtheria. One of the cases had been immunised privately three years previously, and one had received the second injection only a week before, so that it was only partially immunised—full immunisation reaching its peak only several months after the second injection. Again I appeal to the parents and guardians of children under 15 years, but especially to those having under their care children under 5 years—the period 1-5 years being the most fatal for children when attacked. The treatment is simple, costs nothing, and is nearly a hundred per cent. effective.

The following table shows the number of children immunised during the year and the total number of children under 15 years

at the 31st December, 1945, who had completed a full course of immunisation :—

	Under five years.	5-15 years.
Completed treatment during year ...	91	7
Total immunised at 31st Dec., 1945..	334	1170

An unknown number of children have been immunised by their family doctors.

During 1945, 40,000 units of diphtheria antitoxin were issued through the Public Health Office.

**Measles.** A considerable increase in the numbers of notifications took place from January to May. The disease was of mild type.

**Whooping Cough.** There was a big increased incidence of cases, but here again of a mild type.

No deaths took place from any of the above diseases.

**Scabies.** A few cases of this affection turn up now and again, but on the whole they are becoming less.

**Disinfection.** This operation is carried out with formalin spray or candles. 90 houses were disinfected in this way during the year.

# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1945.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.															
DISEASE	Total Cases all ages		AGE PERIODS—YEARS.										Total Deaths and over	Total Deaths Hospital	Cases removed to in Hospital
			Un-der 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65		
Scarlet Fever	72	...	3	8	1	5	22	25	4	2	2			53	
Diphtheria	12	...	3	1			4		3	1				12	
Measles	104	...	2	9	11	16	14	49	2		1			1	
Whooping Cough	66	...	4	6	12	8	13	20		2		1			
Pneumonia	22	...	2			3		2		1	4	3	7	3	
Dysentery	3	...								1		2			
Erysipelas	5	...									2	2	1	1	
Totals	284	...	8	21	32	28	32	97	27	7	7	9	8	3	67

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Monthly Incidence, 1945.

DISEASE	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	72	14	8	6	8	7	6	5		4	1	7	6
Diphtheria	12			2	1	1				2	2	1	3
Measles	104	36	12	18	25	11	2						
Whooping Cough	66	3	1	19	10	2	15	7		4	2	3	
Pneumonia	22	3	2	2	3	2		1	2	1	1	3	2
Erysipelas	5	1		1		1	1			1			
Respiratory Tuberculosis	12	2	1		1	1	1	2		1	2		1
Non-Resp. Tuberculosis	3			1					1	1			
Dysentery	3				3								
Totals	299	59	24	49	51	25	25	15	3	14	8	14	12

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Comparison 1936—1945.

DISEASE	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Scarlet Fever ...	72	69	74	22	39	25	27	21	24	34
Diphtheria ...	12	6	16	9	31	38	22	28	31	46
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
Measles ...	104	38	190	38	201	211	2	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	66	17	16	11	166	4	1	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	22	23	23	21	28	43	26	24	40	37
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	1	...	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	2	...
Erysipelas ...	5	5	5	6	9	3	5	5	3	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	12	10	8	6	10	8	10	11	8	4
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	6	8	2	2	7	5	4	2	5
Dysentery ...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...	...	1	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	2
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	299	176	341	119	495	344	104	99	110	136

Measles and Whooping Cough only notifiable from October, 1939.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years :	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
20 to 25	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
35 to 45	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45 to 55	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 to 65	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 & over	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	8	4	1	2	4	1	0	1
	12		3		5		1	



